UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ICEF/1994/12
6 April 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
Annual session 1994
2-6 May 1994

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN

SUMMARY

Significant results of accelerated child survival activities in the late 1980s, and of global progress toward the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children, are being registered. A set of mid-decade goals has been endorsed widely and action to achieve them is under way. Completed national programmes of action and ratifications of the Convention on the Rights of the Child are approaching the status of near total coverage of the world's child population. High-level commitments to keeping the promise of the Summit are multiplying. The present report provides a brief review of major developments globally and in each region, the status of inter-agency collaboration, the broad participation of non-governmental organizations and the private sector in keeping alive the promise of the Summit, and the increasingly critical lag in support required from the industrial countries. It concludes with some considerations on the mid-decade progress review called for by the World Summit Plan of Action and a recommendation for Executive Board approval.

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
INTRODUCTION		1 - 2	4
I.	PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990s	3 - 11	4
	A. The Progress of Nations	3 - 8	4
	B. The mid-decade goals	9 - 11	6
II.	PROGRESS IN THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION	12 - 16	7
	A. Status of preparation	12	7
	B. Developments at subnational levels	13 - 16	8
III.	PROGRESS ON RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD	17 - 19	10
IV.	HIGH-LEVEL COMMITMENT TO KEEPING THE PROMISE OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN	20 - 26	11
V.	REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS	27 - 42	12
	A. Sub-Saharan Africa	27 - 30	12
	B. Asia	31 - 32	13
	C. Middle East and North Africa	33	14
	D. Latin America and the Caribbean	34 - 36	14
	E. Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States	37 - 39	15
	F. Industrialized countries	40 - 42	15
VI.	INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION	43 - 53	16
VII.	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR	54 - 60	19
VIII.	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION	61 - 63	21
IX.	THE FORTHCOMING MID-DECADE REVIEW	64 - 69	22
X.	THE CHALLENGES AHEAD	70 - 71	23
XI.	RECOMMENDATION	72	24

CONTENTS (continued)

Page

List of tables

1. Status of completion of national programmes of action by region as of 31 January 1994 8

2. Countries that have completed or are preparing programmes of action at subnational levels 9

Annexes

I. STATUS OF SIGNATURES ON THE DECLARATION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994 27

II. STATUS OF WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994 28

III. STATUS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994 29

INTRODUCTION

1. The World Summit for Children, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, was an unprecedented gathering of world leaders. Seventy-one heads of State or Government, together with delegations from an additional 88 countries led by ministers and ambassadors, met to consider the situation of children around the world. They issued a World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and endorsed a detailed Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s in order to reach ambitious but achievable goals for the year 2000. 1/

2. The General Assembly, in resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990, welcomed the adoption by the World Summit for Children of the World Declaration and the Plan of Action and urged (a) all States and other members of the international community to work for the achievement of the goals endorsed therein; (b) the donor countries especially to assist developing countries in achieving those goals; and (c) all relevant organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, including their governing bodies, to provide support for the follow-up of the World Summit for Children. The present report discusses progress made in these and related areas since the preparation of the previous progress report in January 1993 (E/ICEF/1993/12).

I. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990s

A. The Progress of Nations

3. Three and one half years since the event, and less than two years until the middle of the decade of the 1990s, it is time to begin to look for results from the commitment made by the 156 countries that have signed the Declaration of the World Summit for Children to give every child a better future and to achieve a set of goals for the survival, development and protection of children by the year 2000. With this in mind, UNICEF has launched a new publication, entitled The Progress of Nations, which presents the latest available data on a country-by-country basis for both developing and industrialized nations, on global performance as regards the major goal indicators. For a number of goals, the data are still insufficient and monitoring mechanisms are still being put into place. For many goals, the 1990 baselines are only now being determined. Nevertheless, especially with reference to conditions a decade or more ago, evidence is emerging that a major and widespread effort for children is under way, that results of child survival actions in the late 1980s are beginning to be visible and that there is a fighting chance that "the promises" may be kept for the great majority of the world's children.

4. Deaths from measles have been brought down from more than 2.5 million per year in 1980 to just over 1 million per year at present. Deaths from dehydration due to diarrhoea have fallen from 4 million per year to less than 3 million owing largely to the use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). In 10 years, infant deaths from neonatal tetanus have been reduced from more than

1 million per year to just over half a million. Poliomyelitis is close to being eradicated in several regions of the developing world, with no cases registered in the western hemisphere for more than two years. The number of cases of dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) dropped from 5 million to 10 million cases per year in the 1980s to an estimated half million cases in 1992. At least three of the largest developing countries, China, Indonesia and Mexico, appear to be clearly on track towards the goal of effective achievement of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary-school-age children, and three others, Brazil, Egypt and India, are in a position to do the same with an accelerated effort. As part of an initiative to promote the great advantages of breast-feeding, 72 countries have acted to end free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to hospitals and maternity facilities and another 53 countries continue their practice of no free or low-cost distribution of formula in such institutions.

5. As of 1 January 1994, the Convention on the Rights of the Child 2/ had been ratified by 154 countries and some 92 nations had finalized their national programmes of action (NPAs) for children, providing 86 per cent of the children of the developing world, and 80 per cent of all children, with practical plans for achieving national targets by the year 2000.

6. The possiblity of virtually eliminating by the end of 1995 the world's leading cause of mental retardation and impairment, iodine deficiency disorders (IDD), has captured the imagination of a wide range of important supporters, from world leaders such as the King of Thailand, the President of the Philippines and the top leadership of China to civic organizations such as Kiwanis International. Many Governments, including the Governments of Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe, already have embarked on actions to iodate all salt produced and all imported and exported salt. Bolivia and Ecuador are close to the elimination of IDD.

7. As may be expected, those signs of progress are more visible in some countries and programme areas than in others. Despite the proved merits of ORT, over $1 billion is still being spent on anti-diarrhoeal remedies, most of which are useless or harmful. Progress towards the elimination of neonatal tetanus by 1995 needs to be greatly accelerated. A significant change in maternal mortality is still to be registered, although a consensus on low-cost approaches to safe motherhood is rapidly evolving. Progress against pneumonia, now the leading killer of children, is still too slow. Nevertheless, the signs are encouraging enough to merit continued and sustained efforts to hold the nations of the world to their commitment.

8. The above-mentioned progress has only been possible through the commitment and practical action of a large number of Governments and supporting groups, including donor Governments and non-governmental organizations. UNICEF also has played a supporting role through its field offices and headquarters, with advocacy and support for technical meetings and for mobilizing them in all regions of the world. The positive results of these many efforts appear to be defining a new paradigm for action by UNICEF, combining broad international objectives and politically agreed specific goals with advocacy, country-level catalytic support, social mobilization and careful, year-by-year monitoring.

This model so far is the exception rather than the rule within the United Nations, but may perhaps provide experience worth building on elsewhere.

B. The mid-decade goals

9. In 1992, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) organized the International Conference on Assistance to African Children (ICAAC) in Dakar, Senegal, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) organized the Second Conference on Children in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and the League of Arab States, held its meeting in Tunis. Each adopted a set of mid-decade goals for children, which subsequently received summit-level endorsement by OAU, SAARC and the Ministerial Council of the League of Arab States. In February 1993, the UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Committee on Health Policy (JCHP) adopted a set of mid-decade goals, derived largely from those of OAU and SAARC, which were subsequently endorsed by the Executive Boards of UNICEF (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/16) and WHO in May 1993. At the same session, the UNICEF Executive Board also endorsed the year 1995 as a target date for every State in the world to have become party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/13), as did the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna a month later. 3/ The East Asia and Pacific Ministerial Consultation on Goals for Children and Development in the 1990s, held in Manila, the Philippines, endorsed these goals in September 1993. At the end of that same month, on the third anniversary of the World Summit for Children, a Round Table on Keeping the Promise to Children was convened by the Secretary-General, at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Seven heads of State or Government, along with special envoys and foreign ministers from another 17 countries, participated and renewed their commitment to the end-of-decade goals and endorsed the mid-decade targets.

10. The mid-decade goals are as follows:

(a) Elevation of immunization coverage of six antigens of the Expanded Programme on Immunization to 80 per cent or more in all countries;

(b) Virtual elimination of neonatal tetanus by 1995;

(c) Reduction of measles mortality by 95 per cent and reduction of measles cases by 90 per cent compared to pre-immunization levels by 1995, as a major step to the global eradication of measles;

(d) Elimination of poliomyelitis in selected countries and regions;

(e) Virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency by ensuring that at least 80 per cent of all children under 24 months of age in areas with vitamin A deficiency receive adequate vitamin A;

(f) Universal iodization of salt in IDD-affected countries;

(g) Achievement of 80 per cent usage of ORT and continued feeding as part of the programme to control diarrhoeal diseases;

(h) Ending and preventing free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes in all hospitals and maternity facilities, and assisting target hospitals and maternity facilities to achieve "baby-friendly" status in accordance with Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) global criteria;

(i) Interruption of dracunculiasis transmission in all affected villages by the end of 1995;

(j) Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by all countries;

(k) Reduction of 1990 levels of severe and moderate malnutrition by one fifth or more;

(l) Strengthening of basic education so as to achieve reduction by one third of the gap between the current primary school enrolment/retention rate and the year 2000 goal of universal access to basic education and achievement of primary education by at least 80 per cent of school-age children, and reduction of the 1990 gender gap in primary education by one third;

(m) Increasing water supply and sanitation so as to narrow the gap between 1990 levels and universal access by the year 2000 by one fourth in the case of water supply and one tenth in the case of sanitation.

11. Individual countries and regional groups have sometimes adopted other mid-decade goals as well, some of which are more ambitious than those listed in the paragraph above. Achievement of those mid-decade goals would assure that the momentum towards accomplishing the full set of decade goals is maintained, while at the same time averting the deaths of an additional 2 million children. During the coming two years, therefore, progress towards the mid-decade goals will be the main yardstick for assessing the seriousness of the larger decade-long effort.

II. PROGRESS IN THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION

A. Status of preparation

12. The Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children called upon all Governments to prepare national programmes of action (NPAs) to implement the commitments undertaken in the World Summit Declaration and the Plan of Action itself. The status of preparation of NPAs as of 31 January 1994 is presented in table 1 below. The vast majority of developing countries have completed their NPAs. Except for some small island developing States, most of the countries that have not reported any action are those affected by war, disaster or other extreme difficulties. The smallest proportion of completed or draft NPAs is among the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, many of which were not represented separately at the Summit. Nevertheless, 15 of those 27 countries have signed the World Summit Declaration and 8 of them have recently begun the process of preparing NPAs. Six of the 12 industrialized countries for which no action has been reported have populations of less than 400,000, and four of those countries have populations of less than

30,000. Thus, some 80 per cent of the world's children are now covered by NPAs that have been finalized; for developing countries the figure is 86 per cent.

Table 1. Status of completion of national programmes of action by region as of 31 January 1994

Region/country	Finalized	In draft	Preparation under way	No action reported	Total	Percentage of child population (under 16) in region covered by: Completed NPAs	NPAs completed or in draft
Asia	18	6	3	6	33	98	99
Latin America and the Caribbean	21	3	7	2	33	64	97
Middle East and North Africa	14	5	1	1	21	85	99
Sub-Saharan Africa	26	11	4	5	46	59	84
Central and Eastern Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States	0	0	8	19	27	-	-
Industrialized countries	13	2	3	12	30	61	67
Total	92	27	26	45	190	80 (of global child population)	90

B. Developments at subnational levels

13. Perhaps the most remarkable development since the last progress report is the widespread effort to decentralize the NPA process to provincial and municipal levels. Action at subnational levels is called for in 68 NPAs. Action programmes at provincial and/or municipal levels are known to be completed or under development in 37 of those countries. Every province in China has signed a contract with the National Coordinating Committee for Children and Women to prepare its own programme of action. Every State in India has been directed to do likewise and eight States have already drafted those documents. In Latin America, 16 out of 24 countries surveyed by the International Child Development Centre in Florence, Italy, are carrying out some form of decentralization of the NPA process. In the two largest countries of Latin America, Brazil and Mexico, virtually all States are involved. Details for individual countries for which information is available are provided in table 2 below.

Table 2. Countries that have completed or are preparing programmes of action at subnational levels

Region/country	Provincial level		Municipal level (one or more major municipalities)
	Virtually all provinces	Selected provinces	
Latin America and the Caribbean			
ARGENTINA		X	
BOLIVIA		X	X
BRAZIL	X		
CHILE	X		X
COLOMBIA		X	X
COSTA RICA			X
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	X		X
ECUADOR		X	X
EL SALVADOR			X
GUATEMALA		X	X
MEXICO	X		
NICARAGUA			X
PANAMA		X	
PARAGUAY		X	
PERU		X	X
URUGUAY	X		
VENEZUELA		X	X
Asia			
BANGLADESH			X
CHINA	X		X
INDIA	X		
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	X		
MONGOLIA			X
PAKISTAN	X		
PHILIPPINES		X	X
VIET NAM	X		
Middle East and North Africa			
EGYPT			X
MOROCCO			X
OMAN	X		
SUDAN		X	
TUNISIA		X	
Sub-Saharan Africa			
BOTSWANA	X		
CAMEROON	X		
CONGO			X
COTE D'IVOIRE	X		
KENYA			X
MADAGASCAR		X	X
NAMIBIA		X	
NIGERIA		X	
SIERRA LEONE			X
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA		X	X
UGANDA			X
Industrialized countries			
AUSTRALIA	X		
CANADA		X	

14. The Mayors as Defenders of Children Initiative, first launched in Italy, has now taken on global proportions. Mayors and municipal leaders from 45 countries of Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America and Oceania gathered in Mexico City in July 1993 at the Second International Colloquium of Mayors, Defenders of Children, reiterated their commitment to achieving the goals established at the World Summit for Children, and called upon their counterparts around the world to do likewise, adapting NPAs to municipal realities. 4/ The significance of support at the municipal level is considerable since, in many countries, responsibility for health and education in urban areas is principally at the municipal rather than the national level.

15. This colloquium has been followed by a number of regional activities, reported on below under each region, and follow-up actions at the country level. In December 1993, the 60-member League of Cities of the Philippines signed a seven-point Declaration of Commitment to Children, pledging to develop city plans of action for children within the framework of the NPA and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Progress reports are to be submitted every year, beginning at the end of 1994. In the Dominican Republic, 21 mayors from that country's central region held their First Regional Meeting of Mayors as Defenders of Children, committing themselves to promoting and strengthening local initiatives in favour of children and urging all city council members across the country to come together on initiatives directed at the healthy development of children. The Mayor of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, met for three days with the mayors of that country's 10 largest towns. Mayors of Santiago, Chile, of Ibague, Colombia, and of Limbe, Cameroon, all held follow-up meetings. National meetings of mayors also have taken place in Argentina, Colombia, Guinea, Italy and Morocco.

16. A number of countries have revised or are revising their NPAs to bring them up to date with recent developments, to improve one or another portion of the programme or to incorporate mid-decade goals. Among those countries are Bolivia, Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Kenya, Malawi, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela.

III. PROGRESS ON RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

17. The vast majority of countries whose leaders pledged in the Summit Declaration to work for early ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child have honoured that pledge. As of 31 January 1994, 170 countries had signed and 154 had ratified the Convention (see annex III for the list of countries). The Committee on the Rights of the Child is fully and effectively operational. By the end of 1993, it had received 31 country reports on implementation of the Convention and had reviewed 17 of them in an atmosphere of mutual concern for overcoming obstacles to the full enjoyment of their rights by all children. The 1993 Executive Board of UNICEF, followed by the World Conference on Human Rights, made universal ratification of the Convention an additional goal for implementation by 1995 (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/13).

18. The NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child is playing a key role in coordinating the information flow between the non-governmental

organization community and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as well as facilitating the monitoring and implementation of the Convention at the national level through the development of national coalitions of non-governmental organizations.

19. National programmes of action (NPAs) are linked closely to the implementation of the Convention. That link is made explicit in more than 20 NPAs from all parts of the world. Among industrialized countries, Canada, the Nordic countries and the Netherlands are especially notable for the way that the Convention is central to their NPAs. Even where this linkage is only implicit, the NPA is one of the few instruments available for setting a time-frame for much of a Government's minimum core of obligations under the Convention. That has been recognized by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which has included the NPA among the documents it wishes to review in connection with the reports it receives from States Parties to the Convention.

IV. HIGH-LEVEL COMMITMENT TO KEEPING THE PROMISE OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN

20. In September 1993, the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly a second report entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children", 5/ providing information on plans prepared and actions taken by individual countries and the international community in response to the Summit as at 15 July 1993. The General Assembly, in resolution 48/446 of 21 December 1993 took note of the report and requested that it be updated for consideration at its forty-ninth session.

21. Children continue to have an increasingly prominent place at the top of the public agenda among world leaders. On the occasion of their receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace, President F. W. de Klerk of South Africa dedicated his address to "the children of the world ... and to all those - such as UNICEF - who are working to alleviate their plight", and Nelson Mandela, President of the African National Congress, committed "the new South Africa to the relentless pursuit of the purposes defined in the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children". 6/ President de Klerk and Mr. Mandela shortly thereafter together signed the Declaration of the World Summit for Children. At the Eighth International Vatican Conference on Children and the Future, probably the largest international conference ever held on the subject of children, His Holiness Pope John Paul II accepted the invitation to involve the institutions of the Roman Catholic Church in achieving the goals of the World Summit for Children and expressed the hope that the Convention on the Rights of the Child would soon become the first universal treaty on human rights.

22. President Salinas de Gortari of Mexico continues to hold meetings every six months to evaluate the progress made by his country in implementing its NPA. Following his example, the Prime Ministers of India, Pakistan, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania have all pledged to review regularly progress towards the goals of their NPAs. The President of the United States of America, at the launch of The State of the World's Children 1994 report, said that: 7/

"There have been times when the fight for the world's children seemed to be a losing one. But the Children's Summit and related events have transformed that frustration into hope ... Working with UNICEF and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, we want to make those goals at the Children's Summit come true."

23. On the education front, heads of State and other high-level representatives of the nine most populous countries met in New Delhi in December 1993 for the nine-country Education for All Summit. China, Indonesia and Mexico, as mentioned above, appear to be clearly on track towards the goal of achievement of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary-school-age children. Brazil, Egypt and India are making rapid progress and could achieve the goal as well, with some extra impetus. Bangladesh, Nigeria and Pakistan have much farther to go than the other six countries, but solid progress should be expected from at least two of those countries.

24. The World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna, Austria, in June 1993, called for universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by 1995 and the universal signing of the World Summit for Children Declaration and Plan of Action, as well as their effective implementation. 8/ The Conference also urged States to withdraw reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child contrary to the objective and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law.

25. Health Ministers and delegation heads from 38 countries of the Americas, Asia and Africa met in Mexico City in October 1993 and signed the Initiative to Accelerate a Reduction in Child Mortality, which renewed their commitment to the goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children, endorsed the mid-decade health goals, encouraged the participation of all social groups and the media in programmes to reduce child mortality, and urged that, when donors forgive or reschedule international debt, debtor nations should make corresponding investments in the social sectors.

26. Health Ministers and bilateral donors also met with The Task Force for Child Survival and Development, sponsored by WHO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, UNICEF and the Rockefeller Foundation, in New Delhi, in February 1994, to discuss the mid-decade goals and strategies for supporting sustainable health systems. Francophone ministers responsible for children's issues met in Dakar, Senegal, in July 1993, and issued a statement embracing the year 2000 goals set at the World Summit for Children and the targets set for achievement by the end of 1995.

V. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Sub-Saharan Africa

27. The "Consensus of Dakar", 9/ together with a Plan of Action for its implementation, were adopted formally by the OAU Council of Ministers, who met from 21 to 26 June 1993, and Summit of Heads of State and Government, which took place in Cairo, from 28 to 30 June 1993. 10/ The Consensus was drawn up when delegations of some 44 Governments, most of them led at the ministerial level,

met at ICAAC, in Dakar, Senegal, in November 1992. In the Consensus of Dakar, the Governments, together with donor partners from 18 industrialized countries and representatives of international financial institutions, United Nations and regional organizations and international and African non-governmental organizations, reaffirmed the need to translate the commitments of the World Summit for Children into concrete programmes of action that can be implemented.

28. Specifically, the African countries attending the Conference committed themselves (a) to develop and implement NPAs and to incorporate them into their bilateral and multilateral consultative processes and development programmes; (b) to undertake new efforts to resolve and prevent conflicts in Africa and to apply universally the principles of "corridors of peace" and "days of tranquillity"; (c) to restructure government budgets to support the key goals of their NPAs and shift resources away from non-productive uses, such as military/internal security expenditures and subsidies for inefficient state organizations; and (d) to support an increase in domestic resource mobilization through such actions as national tax reform and the encouragement of community actions and contributions. The African countries also committed themselves to reaching a set of intermediate goals by 1995.

29. Donor and international financial institutions present at ICAAC also committed themselves to provide resources to support NPAs and to "increasing and sustaining the share of Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment to social priority sectors by 1995 in line with increasing commitments by African countries ... bearing in mind the level of at least 20 per cent of ODA for these sectors as recommended in the Human Development Report 1992 11/ of the United Nations Development Programme". 12/ Donor partners and international financial institutions also committed themselves to make every effort to promote debt cancellation or relief for African countries. A continental follow-up mechanism involving the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and UNICEF was established under the auspices of OAU to monitor the overall formulation and implementation of NPAs and submit progress reports to the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

30. Mayors of 13 West African capitals met in Freetown, Sierra Leone, in December 1993 to adopt the "Freetown Declaration", which called on political leaders to support and encourage municipalities in the implementation of the goals of the World Summit for Children.

B. Asia

31. The Seventh Summit of Heads of State and Government of SAARC, held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in April 1993, endorsed the Colombo resolution, 13/ strongly linking it with a collective commitment to eradicate poverty within 10 years. The resolution was the product of the Second SAARC Conference on Children in South Asia, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in September 1992, where ministers and other senior officials recommended a set of intermediate targets aimed at catalysing and accelerating progress towards the goals for the decade. The targets include access to, and enrolment in, primary education for at least 80 per cent of boys and 75 per cent of girls, and completion of primary education by at least 50 per cent of girls and boys by 1995; universal use of

ORT for home-based treatment of diarrhoea and universal access to oral rehydration salts (ORS) by 1996; progressive reduction of gender disparity in all the goal-related indicators; and raising the minimum age of marriage for girls to at least 18 years.

32. At the Regional Ministerial Consultation held in Manila from 27 to 29 September 1993, 17 countries signed the Manila Consensus, in which they reaffirmed their commitment to pursue vigorously the goals of their respective NPAs and to adopt policies, programmes and relevant strategies that will achieve the Mid-Decade Goals by the end of 1995. They also urged member States to use the occasion of the World Summit for Social Development in 1995 to report on the progress being made on achieving the mid-decade goals.

C. Middle East and North Africa

33. All Arab States have endorsed the Pan-Arab Plan for Child Survival, Protection and Development, adopted by the League of Arab States at a high-level meeting held in Tunis, in November 1992. 14/ The Plan set targets for the year 1995, including the eradication of poliomyelitis, a 95 per cent reduction of deaths from measles in the region, the elimination of neonatal tetanus, an 80 per cent usage rate for ORT, universal salt iodization, halting the free distribution of breast-milk substitutes and the designation of all major hospitals as "baby-friendly". The meeting called for effective monitoring systems in every Arab State and established a permanent committee for follow-up to the implementation of the plan.

D. Latin America and the Caribbean

34. At the Third Ibero-American Summit, held in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, on 15 and 16 July 1993, Heads of State and Government expressed their intention to integrate NPAs fully into national development policies and urged international and bilateral aid agencies to give priority to the funding and technical assistance necessary to implement NPAs. They also approved a set of proposals for "Children on the Agenda of Development and Democracy". 15/

35. The Latin American and Caribbean region has taken the lead in efforts to decentralize the NPA process to provincial and municipal levels. The Second International Colloquium of Mayors, Defenders of Children, held in Mexico in July 1993, 16/ and the follow-up meeting of the Latin America and Caribbean Mayors' Coordinating Group, held in Quito, Ecuador, in November 1993, set the pace for the new participation of local Governments in the achievement of the NPA goals. Noteworthy initiatives include the establishment of a Code for Mayors as Defenders of Children and the Certification of Public Works for Children.

36. Technical meetings on Summit follow-up have involved numerous regional institutions. An inter-agency committee, comprising representatives of the Pan-American Health Organization, WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United States Agency for International Development, has been meeting regularly to review progress

towards the decade goals in the health sector and to agree on strategies for achieving them.

E. Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

37. At a Central and Eastern European seminar on "Strategies for Children during the Transition", held in Budapest, Hungary, in April 1993, 50 participants from Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia pledged to work for early NPA finalization and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in their countries. Observer delegations from Ukraine and the Russian Federation also attended. The Russian Federation has subsequently established intersectoral committees and has begun a situation analysis preparatory to the drafting of its NPA.

38. In September 1993, the Heads of State and/or Government of the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, as well as Tajikistan, signed the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children at United Nations Headquarters. Subsequently, a regional seminar for the Baltic States on developing NPAs was held in Riga, Latvia, from 27 to 29 September 1993. In a final statement, the officials and experts called upon the Presidents of the Baltic States to take the lead in developing NPAs for the comprehensive and appropriate development of children and strengthening of the family.

39. In January 1994, in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, health ministers and, subsequently, foreign ministers of the 10-country Economic Cooperation Organization (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) endorsed early action on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and established four working sessions during 1994 to address achievement of the mid-decade goals.

F. Industrialized countries

40. As mentioned in paragraph 14 above, the Mayors as Defenders of Children Initiative has not been limited to developing countries. Italian mayors have been involved from the start. Spanish mayors held their first meeting in Pamplona, Spain, in October 1993, to manifest their concerns for children. Paris will serve as hosts for the next gathering of mayors, and the mayor of Washington, D.C., the United States of America, is actively involved in the Initiative.

41. There are still nine industrialized countries that have signed the World Summit Declaration but have not prepared the NPA to which they had committed themselves. In some industrialized countries, there is a perception that NPAs are not applicable, since they have achieved a high level of well-being for their children. The NPAs of some of the most advanced industrialized countries, however, make clear that the NPA is the appropriate follow-up to the Summit commitments of all countries, rich and poor alike. And in all industrialized countries action is still needed to deal with problems of children, whether

problems of persistent (and sometimes increasing) poverty, or responses to the needs of children in particularly difficult circumstances.

42. A special feature of donor country NPAs is the re-examination of their development assistance budgets to ensure, in the words of the Summit Plan of Action, "that programmes aimed at the achievement of goals for the survival, protection and development of children will have a priority when resources are allocated". 17/ Noteworthy in this context are the NPAs of the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, which indicate specifically an effort to review both bilateral and multilateral assistance to promote the goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The question of increasing the proportions of ODA devoted to priority human needs, however, is not discussed directly in any donor country NPA. That is important because of the increasing recognition being given globally to the UNDP/UNICEF target that at least 20 per cent of ODA should be allocated to priority human development needs. (See discussion on "20/20" in para. 63 below.)

VI. INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

43. Most of the goals set at the World Summit for Children originated in the prior declarations of the World Health Assembly and the World Conference on Education for All, and in the policy statements of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Regugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Bank and others. The relevant specialized and funding agencies offered their ideas and shared their experiences in the preparation of the Summit Declaration. The result of this collaborative effort is amply reflected in the Declaration and the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children. Representatives of many United Nations agencies participated in the Summit meeting itself, including the heads of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and, of course, the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Furthermore, the goals and strategies of the World Summit for Children are closely aligned with the recent growing consensus in the international community on the importance of human development as reflected in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. 18/ Those goals and strategies also reflect, in very specific, measurable terms, the priorities expressed in the UNDP Human Development Reports and recent World Development Reports of the World Bank, which have identified poverty alleviation and investment in people as key strategies for socio-economic development.

44. The General Assembly, in resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992, called for a United Nations "country strategy note to be formulated by interested recipient Governments, with the assistance of, and in cooperation with the United Nations system, under the leadership of the resident coordinator ... on the basis of the priorities and plans of recipient countries". Since they are plans prepared by, or in close collaboration with, the countries themselves on the basis of their own priorities, NPAs undoubtedly will play an important role in the elaboration of the country strategy note. At the global level, actions to incorporate the NPA process into the country strategy approach at the field level are being

discussed through such United Nations forums as the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the Joint Consultative Group on Policies, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operations) and other inter-agency forums.

45. Since the World Summit for Children was held, the involvement of members of the United Nations family in implementing the Plan of Action has been substantial, but uneven in two senses. Some agencies have shown greater commitment than others, and the participation of United Nations agencies in Summit follow-up activities has been stronger in some countries than in others. In certain instances there has been a tendency for both government and United Nations agencies to treat the Summit as essentially a UNICEF concern and to look to UNICEF as the primary United Nations organization responsible for Summit follow-up. While playing its part, UNICEF has tried to dispel that notion on numerous occasions, emphasizing the creative role that all agencies ought to have in implementation.

46. An important step in follow-up to the World Summit for Children is the development of measures for monitoring progress towards the end-decade goals. WHO and UNICEF have agreed on a core set of indicators for all the health and nutrition goals. Those indicators were circulated, together with a joint statement on global monitoring of the health goals of the World Summit for Children, on 9 November 1993, signed by the Assistant Director-General of WHO and the Deputy Executive Director (Programmes) of UNICEF. WHO will include those indicators in its periodic monitoring of progress towards health for all by the year 2000. UNDP and UNICEF are collaborating on the evaluation of aid flows taking place within the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

47. The World Health Organization has been in the forefront of follow-up activities as they affect the health sector. The forty-sixth World Health Assembly in May 1993 reiterated earlier resolutions inviting WHO member States to give the political and economic priority necessary to implement the commitments set out in the Declaration and Plan of Action, and requesting the Director-General of WHO, Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, in cooperation with UNICEF and others concerned, to implement the necessary actions and to monitor achievements in child health in all countries. 19/ WHO and UNICEF are coordinating Summit follow-up activities at numerous secretariat levels and also at the level of their governing bodies through the mechanism of their Joint Committee on Health Policy (JCHP), which has discussed and approved the mid-decade goals. A joint letter from the Director-General of WHO and the Executive Director of UNICEF on the mid-decade goals was sent to all heads of State or Government at the beginning of 1994.

48. The Administrator of UNDP has signed letters encouraging UNDP resident representatives to give importance to the goals of the World Summit for Children, including the mid-decade goals, as part of their "responsibilities and efforts to promote sustainable human development", encouraging them to consider what can be done by the international community to support national action towards the achievement of the goals, monitor progress towards their achievement, use them as a focus for human development advocacy and support them as part of the preparatory action for the World Summit for Social Development.

49. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization welcomed the World Summit for Children as it further reinforced the drive towards accelerating basic education spurred by the Jomtien World Conference on Education for All. 20/ Cooperation between the governing bodies of UNICEF and UNESCO on Summit follow-up is institutionalized through the mechanism of the Joint Committee on Education. A joint UNESCO/UNICEF initiative to focus on the nine largest developing countries, where the majority of the world's illiterate population live, was endorsed at the highest level of Government at the Education for All Summit, held in New Delhi, India, in December 1993. UNESCO and UNICEF also are working together to promote early child development and to support parents in their role as first educators of their children, and also to devise a monitoring system to measure learning achievement in five countries. The two agencies also collaborated on the Pan-African Conference on Education of Girls, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in March-April 1993, attended by eight Ministers of Education and other high-level educators.

50. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, more than one half of whose target population are children, has long been committed to the principles enshrined at the World Summit for Children. They form the basis of UNHCR policies and programmes to assist, protect and promote the development needs of refugee children. UNHCR guidelines on refugee children date back to 1988, but have been revised in the light of the World Summit for Children and the heightened inter-agency collaboration it has engendered. UNHCR has recently appointed a Senior Coordinator for Refugee Children to enhance coordination of services, in close cooperation with the Senior Coordinator for Refugee Women. Concern for children in conflict situations expressed in both the Declaration and the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children has been addressed by UNHCR in joint UNHCR/UNICEF statements on the evacuation of refugee children, joint missions to address the rights of children who are unaccompanied or at risk of abandonment as a result of conflict, the inclusion of funds for education in joint emergency appeals and efforts to try to respond immediately to the psycho-social needs of children traumatized by conflict.

51. The long-standing efforts of ILO to protect working children and abolish child labour by UNICEF have been warmly welcomed. These have recently received added impetus with the establishment of the Interdepartmental Project on Elimination of Child Labour (INTERDEP) and the International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). INTERDEP concentrates on promoting policies on the abolition of child labour and the protection of working children through regional and national seminars, awareness-raising and research on the nature and extent of the problem and possible approaches to alleviating it. Through IPEC, this work is translated into action projects at local and national levels. In those activities, ILO collaborates with other international organizations, particularly UNICEF and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

52. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) also attaches considerable importance to the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the World Summit for Children, which is complementary to and supportive of the Amsterdam Declaration on a Better Life for Future Generations, 21/ adopted at the Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, held from 6 to 9 November 1989 in the Netherlands. Given the UNFPA focus on maternal and child health (MCH) and family planning, most of the provisions of the World Summit Plan of Action are

of direct relevance to UNFPA. The four major multilateral organizations involved in the field of MCH - WHO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA - have agreed on joint goals reflecting the Summit objectives and have issued joint guidelines to their field offices for enhancing their collaboration. UNFPA and UNICEF have indicated ways in which each will be responding to the Summit in areas related to family planning in a report presented to the UNICEF Executive Board (E/ICEF/1992/L.13).

53. The Executive Board, in decision 1993/12 (E/ICEF/1993/14), requested that collaboration with international and regional financial institutions be strengthened further to ensure that NPAs are taken into account at relevant moments of the poverty reduction, lending and adjustment processes. NPAs have been discussed at consultative group meetings of donors held under the auspices of the World Bank, notably for Ghana and Zambia. The World Bank 1993 World Development Report is devoted to the subject of investing in health and calls for a set of actions and reforms that are largely congruent with the goals of the World Summit for Children, to which it devotes a special panel. The World Bank is involved in NPA implementation in the fields of health and nutrition in Argentina, Ecuador and Nepal; in water supply and sanitation in Bhutan and Madagascar; in the control of IDD in Madagascar and Malawi; in education in Belize and the Dominican Republic; and in surveys and monitoring in Chad, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya, Nicaragua and Zambia.

VII. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

54. The World Summit for Children was regarded as a landmark event by humanitarian and developmental non-governmental organizations in that their contribution to national development was recognized at the highest political level, in many cases, for the first time. Those working in child-related areas particularly welcomed the invitation extended to them in the Summit Declaration to cooperate actively with Governments in formulating and implementing national plans of action to reach the Summit goals, resulting in close consultations between Governments and non-governmental organizations in the development of NPAs in many countries.

55. At the global level, a large number of non-governmental organizations working in child-related areas have taken Summit follow-up actions within the framework of their own respective mandates. While some have prepared specific programmes of action to implement and support the goals endorsed by the World Summit for Children, others have reviewed or restructured existing programmes to bring them in line with those goals. The Christian Children's Fund has developed a set of 10 steps based on the World Summit goals, which have been incorporated into its national programmes. Its offices are now in the process of field testing indicators to measure progress towards those goals. The International Council of Nurses has published scientific guidelines for their national chapters to promote implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; to participate in programmes that address the needs of the girl child, particularly in nutrition, health and education; and to initiate activities to protect children from abuse and violence. The "Voice of the Children" campaign organized children's hearings in 52 countries, providing an opportunity for children to call the attention of Governments and the general

public to their concerns on the environment. The non-governmental organizations group Results has spearheaded a "Keeping the Promise" campaign in many countries and communities. It has influenced important legislative action in support of the Summit goals in Canada, the United States and several other countries.

56. Non-governmental organizations are providing strong support for the universal ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. International Save the Children Alliance has continued its education programmes on the Convention. The Non-Governmental Organization Committee on UNICEF produced a Summary of International Treaties to Protect Children in Armed Conflict in order to familiarize government agencies and non-governmental organizations with the provisions of relevant international law. It also organized a Central American conference in November 1993 to discuss strategies for implementing and monitoring the Convention, especially in relation to children in difficult circumstances. Defence for Children International, with the support of Radda Barnen, organized a workshop to develop a coordinated network of information systems on children's rights. The International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Social Service and the Christian Children's Fund worked to support legislative action in Eastern and Central Europe in favour of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

57. Rotary International continues its outstanding support to the goal of worldwide poliomyelitis eradication and has initiated the creation of a Polio Eradication Network to strengthen social mobilization and communication activities in support of the goal. Through technical assistance, baseline surveys, distribution of vitamin A capsules to non-governmental organizations and ministries of health, Helen Keller International has played a key role in efforts to eliminate vitamin A deficiency. Kiwanis International has recently committed itself to a major fund-raising effort in support of the virtual elimination of IDD. 22/ At the Junior Chamber International XLVIII World Congress in Hong Kong, held in November 1993, it was resolved to support the global goal of 80 per cent use of ORT by 1995 through communications and assistance in doubling global production capacity for ORS from the current 500 million packets to 1 billion packets.

58. The World Alliance of Breastfeeding Action, a coalition of non-governmental organizations, has actively supported breast-feeding and the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI). Its members, such as La Leche League International, the International Breastfeeding Action Network and Wellstart, have trained health professionals in lactation management, advocated the adoption of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes at the national level, organized mothers' support groups for breast-feeding, as well as raised public awareness on the benefits of breast-feeding, especially through the World Breast-feeding Week. Non-governmental organizations, especially in Central and Eastern Europe, have often played a leading role in mobilizing government action and public support for breast-feeding.

59. In support of the education goals, the Education for All Network is building coalitions through a series of regional meetings. To highlight the current disparities in education between boys and girls, the NGO Committee on UNICEF organized a conference with non-governmental organizations, selected governmental officials and United Nations agencies. The participants issued a

call to action for all non-governmental organizations to promote the education of the girl child world wide. The International Federation of University Women has adopted a three-year action programme (1992-1995), one of the goals of which is to increase access to formal education systems for women and girls, and to make those systems more responsive to their needs. Rotary International is supporting literacy programmes in addition to its continued efforts to eradicate poliomyelitis.

60. A major "keep the promise to children" meeting of more than 100 leaders of eight religions and indigenous traditions from 14 countries of Asia and the Pacific took place in Melbourne, Australia, in September 1993. Participants issued a statement and action plan urging spiritual and religious people and institutions to work towards the goals of the World Summit for Children and universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, drawing upon the ethical traditions and teachings of their respective faiths.

VIII. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

61. Resources for achieving the NPA goals can be both internal and external. The reallocation of government budgets to increase the proportion devoted to these goals is generally the most important of the actions required. Bhutan's NPA projects have increased the proportion of funds allocated to education from 8.3 to 11.2 per cent of the budget and the proportion of funds allocated for health from 4.3 to 6.7 per cent during the period 1991-1997. Chile has earmarked $700 million, in addition to its current annual social sector budget of $6 billion, to finance its NPA during the 1993-2000 period. Senegal plans to increase the share of its expenditure for health sectors from the current 4.8 per cent to 9 per cent by the year 2000. Egypt's NPA has been assigned 7.5 per cent of the budget in the 1992-1997 development plan. Reductions in expenditure on armaments are mentioned specifically in the NPAs of Namibia and Zimbabwe. Mexico's social expenditure as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) has grown from 6.1 per cent in 1989 to 9.7 per cent in 1993. This upward trend, although preceded by a steep decline during the 1980s, has been linked explicitly to the NPA process. Mexico is perhaps the only country reporting specifically on child-related expenditure as a percentage of GDP, which has risen from 3.1 per cent in 1989 to 4.4 per cent in 1993. Other countries reporting budgetary restructuring and increased social sector expenditures include the Gambia, Peru, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Uruguay.

62. While developing countries are making major commitments and achieving substantial results, the donor community, with some notable exceptions, needs to do more to demonstrate the collective resolve to provide the modest level of resources required to sustain their part of the effort. World Bank lending for education and health has already grown substantially - more than threefold for education and twentyfold for population, health and nutrition since the early 1980s - with an increasing shift within those sectors to primary health care and primary education. The International Development Bank (IDB) has pledged to increase its social sector lending to 25 per cent of total. Donor support for emergencies has increased, but ODA as a whole is stagnating. Increased demand for international financing in the Commonwealth of Independent States, for emergency assistance and for peace-keeping is reducing the financing available

for Africa, Asia and Latin America. The key issue for the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children will be the extent to which industrialized countries honour their World Summit commitments to support developing countries in the achievement of these goals.

63. Perhaps the most promising avenue for financing the achievement of NPAs in the short run is through the application of the 20/20 concept. This UNICEF initiative, building on ideas first presented in the UNDP 1991 and 1992 Human Development Report, aims at ensuring that developing countries devote at least 20 per cent of government expenditure to human priority concerns - primary health care (PHC), including family planning, nutrition, basic education, low-cost water supply and sanitation - supported by a commensurate level of ODA for these same priority areas. Prime Minister Brundtland of Norway, in her Rafael M. Salas Memorial Lecture at the United Nations on 28 September 1993, called the allocation of 20 per cent of government expenditure and 20 per cent of development aid to priority human concerns "minimum requirements". 23/ This concept of 20/20 was formally endorsed in 1992 by ICAAC, by the 1993 UNICEF Executive Board (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/4) and by the 1993 Asia and Pacific Ministerial Consultation on Goals for Children in the 1990s. This concept now needs to become far more widely accepted and applied to both bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

IX. THE FORTHCOMING MID-DECADE REVIEW

64. In the World Summit Plan of Action, the Secretary-General is requested "to arrange for a mid-decade review, at all appropriate levels, of the progress being made towards implementing the commitments of the Declaration and Plan of Action". 24/

65. The World Summit for Social Development, scheduled to be held in March 1995, offers an opportunity for countries to assess progress for children, especially on the mid-decade goals, on the basis of data available at that time. The World Summit for Social Development can be instrumental in preparing for the review of the situation at mid-decade. UNICEF plans to present a special paper on reporting at mid-decade on progress for children and will seek to have the goals of the World Summit for Children included in those endorsed by the World Summit for Social Development.

66. The sixth anniversary of the World Summit for Children, 30 September 1996, would appear to be an appropriate moment for the Secretary-General to announce the status of progress for children at mid-decade (the end of 1995) and for a more complete assessment of achievements as regards the mid-decade goals. The timing is such that it should give countries and regions the opportunity to hold their own assessments of these results and the international community the opportunity to register 1995 data. The event's form and choice of participants require a fair amount of discussion, involving WHO, other relevant United Nations bodies and other partners, both public and private. Such an event also could be a launching pad for the second phase of the world-wide effort towards achievement of the full set of goals for the year 2000.

67. Industrialized countries should participate in the mid-decade review, along with the rest of the international community. A particular issue in this respect is the absence of data from many industrialized countries with respect to the indicators agreed upon by WHO, UNICEF and other agencies for measuring progress towards the goals.

68. According to the World Summit Plan of Action, 25/

> "The governing bodies of the relevant specialized agencies and United Nations organs are requested to include a periodic review of the implementation of the Declaration and this Plan of Action at their regular sessions and to keep the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, fully informed of progress to date and additional action required during the decade ahead".

It would be appropriate for heads of agencies to be reminded of this request in time for them to take the necessary action.

69. At a UNICEF/WHO inter-secretariat meeting, held at Geneva, Switzerland, on 14 and 15 October 1993, it was agreed to form a WHO/UNICEF working group to develop the process of reporting at mid-decade on global progress on the health goals contained in the World Summit for Children Plan of Action.

X. THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

70. The main challenge ahead is the achievement of the goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children. To meet this challenge, however, several other challenges must be dealt with:

(a) Achievement of the mid-decade goals as a set of milestones to be surpassed on the road towards those for the decade;

(b) The mobilization of adequate resources for implementation of NPAs and the Convention by developing countries through systematic review and appropriate reallocation of national budgets, and by donors through a higher proportion of ODA for priority human development concerns;

(c) The reinforcement of systems for monitoring progress towards the goals, with capacity for wide public review of progress and shortfalls;

(d) Sustaining the momentum for "keeping the promise" of the Summit and the Convention internationally and nationally through advocacy and social mobilization.

71. At a deeper level, there is a need for increased recognition that the achievement of the decade's goals for children would contribute to and help catalyse the realization of many other goals to which the human community aspires, such as slowing population growth rates, accelerating economic growth, improving the environment and overcoming the worst aspects of poverty.

XI. RECOMMENDATION

72. In the light of the above-mentioned challenges, the Executive Director recommends that the Executive Board approve the following recommendation:

The Executive Board,

Having reviewed the "Progress report on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children" (E/ICEF/1994/12),

1. Calls upon all countries to review their NPAs to ensure that the mid-decade goals adopted by regional bodies of which they are members, and/or those approved by the executive bodies of WHO and UNICEF, be appropriately incorporated into their national planning processes and that sufficient priority and resources be devoted to their achievement;

2. Urges donor countries and international financial institutions to increase the share of ODA commitment to social priority sectors to 20 per cent of total ODA for those sectors, and national Governments to increase the share of national budgetary allocations for the same sectors correspondingly, so as to achieve, by 1995, a "20/20" correspondence in the proportion of resources devoted to basic education, PHC, including family planning, low-cost water supply and sanitation and nutrition;

3. Recommends that those countries which have not already done so establish adequate mechanisms for monitoring progress towards the goals of their NPAs, including appropriate high-level meetings to review the state of progress, with the participation of all sectors of civil society, including the mass media;

4. Requests that the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development take into account the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children in its preparatory draft documents and that the 1995 Summit provide the occasion for the nations of the world to report on the progress being made in keeping the promises made to children at the 1990 World Summit for Children, with special reference to progress being made towards the mid-decade goals;

5. Requests that, in the context of General Assembly resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990, the Secretary-General arrange for the mid-decade review, at all appropriate levels, of progress being made towards implementation of the commitments of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children, as called for in article 35 (iv) of the Plan of Action, suggesting 30 September 1996, the sixth anniversary of the World Summit for Children, as an appropriate date for the Secretary-General to announce the results of that review, and that the governing bodies of the relevant United Nations entities be reminded of the Summit recommendation.

Notes

1/ A/45/625, annex.

2/ General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, annex.

3/ For the report of the Conference, see A/CONF.157/24 (Parts I and II).

4/ A/48/321, para. 36.

5/ A/48/321.

6/ Nobel Peace Prize 1993 (Stockholm, The Nobel Foundation, 1993).

7/ Remarks by the President at UNICEF event on children (The White House, 21 December 1993).

8/ See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), para. 21.

9/ A/C.2/47/13, annex.

10/ A/48/322, annex I, CM/Res.1464 (LVIII).

11/ United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report, 1992 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1992).

12/ A/48/322, annex I, CM/Res.1464 (LVIII), para. 6.

13/ A/C.3/47/10, annex.

14/ A/48/321, para. 22.

15/ A/48/291-S/26242, annex, para. 39.

16/ A/48/321, para. 36.

17/ A/45/625, para. 34 (iii).

18/ General Assembly resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990.

19/ WHO resolutions WHA 46.17 and 46.18.

20/ See Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990.

21/ UNFPA, Meeting the Population Challenge, p. 44. See also A/C.2/44/6, annex.

22/ See A/48/321, para. 63.

23/ UNFPA, Rafael M. Salas Memorial Lecture, New York, 28 September 1993.

24/ A/45/625, annex, art. 35 (iv).

25/ Ibid., art. 35 (v).

Annex I

STATUS OF SIGNATURES ON THE DECLARATION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN
AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994

COUNTRIES THAT HAVE SIGNED THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN DECLARATION (156)			NOT SIGNED (34)
Afghanistan	Greece	Paraguay	Andorra
Albania	Grenada	Peru	Angola
Algeria	Guatemala	Philippines	Armenia
Antigua and Barbuda	Guinea	Poland	Azerbaijan
Argentina	Guinea-Bissau	Portugal	Bahamas
Australia	Guyana	Qatar	Bahrain
Austria	Haiti	Republic of Korea	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bangladesh	Holy See	Romania	Brunei Darussalam
Barbados	Honduras	Russian Federation	Croatia
Belarus	Hungary	Rwanda	Cyprus
Belgium	Iceland	Sao Tome and and Principe	Czech Republic
Belize	India	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Ethiopia
Benin	Indonesia	Saint Lucia	Georgia
Bhutan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Iraq
Bolivia	Ireland	Samoa	Kyrgyzstan
Botswana	Israel	Senegal	Kiribati
Brazil	Italy	Sierra Leone	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Bulgaria	Jamaica	Solomon Islands	Malta
Burkina Faso	Japan	South Africa	Micronesia
Burundi	Jordan	Spain	Myanmar
Cameroon	Kazakhstan	Sri Lanka	Nauru
Cambodia	Kenya	Sudan	Oman
Canada	Kuwait	Suriname	Republic of Moldova
Cape Verde	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Swaziland	San Marino
Central African Republic	Latvia	Sweden	Saudi Arabia
Chad	Lebanon	Switzerland	Seychelles
Chile	Lesotho	Syrian Arab Republic	Singapore
China	Liberia	Tajikistan	Slovenia
Colombia	Liechtenstein	Thailand	Slovak Republic
Comoros	Lithuania	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Somalia
Congo	Luxembourg	Togo	Tonga
Costa Rica	Madagascar	Trinidad and Tobago	Tuvalu
Côte d'Ivoire	Malawi	Tunisia	United Arab Emirates
Cuba	Malaysia	Turkey	Uzbekistan
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Maldives	Turkmenistan	
Denmark	Mali	Uganda	
Djibouti	Marshall Islands	Ukraine	
Dominica	Mauritania	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
Dominican Republic	Mauritius	United Republic of Tanzania	
Ecuador	Mexico	United States of America	
Egypt	Monaco	Uruguay	
El Salvador	Mongolia	Vanuatu	
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Venezuela	
Eritrea	Mozambique	Viet Nam	
Estonia	Namibia	Yemen	
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	Nepal	Zaire	
Finland	Netherlands	Zambia	
France	New Zealand	Zimbabwe	
Fiji	Nicaragua		
Gabon	Niger		
Gambia	Nigeria		
Germany	Norway		
Ghana	Pakistan		
	Panama		
	Papua New Guinea		

Annex I

STATUS OF WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN
NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION
AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994

ASIA * 3 ** 6 *** 18	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA * 4 ** 11 *** 26	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN * 7 ** 3 *** 21	MIDDLE-EAST AND NORTH AFRICA * 1 ** 5 *** 14	INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES * 3 ** 2 *** 19
Afghanistan	* Angola	* Antigua and Barbuda	*** Algeria	Andorra
*** Bangladesh	*** Benin	*** Argentina	*** Bahrain	** Australia
*** Bhutan	*** Botswana	Bahamas	Cyprus	Austria
Brunei Darussalam	** Burkina Faso	*** Barbados	*** Djibouti	*** Belgium
Cambodia	*** Burundi	*** Belize	*** Egypt	*** Canada
*** China	** Cameroon	*** Bolivia	*** Iran (Islamic Republic of)	*** Denmark
*** Democratic People's Republic of Korea	** Cape Verde	** Brazil	* Iraq	*** Finland
** Federated States of Micronesia	*** Central African Republic	*** Chile	** Jordan	* France
*** Fiji	*** Chad	*** Colombia	*** Kuwait	*** Germany
*** India	*** Comoros	*** Costa Rica	** Lebanon	Greece
*** Indonesia	*** Congo	*** Cuba	** Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	*** Holy See
* Kiribati	*** Côte d'Ivoire	* Dominica	*** Morocco	Iceland
** Lao People's Democratic Republic	** Equatorial Guinea	*** Dominican Republic	** Oman	Ireland
** Malaysia	Eritrea	*** Ecuador	*** Qatar	Israel
*** Maldives	** Ethiopia	*** El Salvador	*** Saudi Arabia	* Italy
*** Marshall Islands	Gabon	* Grenada	*** Sudan	*** Japan
*** Mongolia	*** Gambia	*** Guatemala	*** Syrian Arab Republic	Luxembourg
*** Myanmar	*** Ghana	* Guyana	*** Tunisia	Liechtenstein
Nauru	*** Guinea	Haiti	*** Turkey	Malta
*** Nepal	** Guinea-Bissau	*** Honduras	*** United Arab Emirates	Monaco
*** Pakistan	*** Kenya	** Jamaica	** Yemen	*** Netherlands
* Papua New Guinea	* Lesotho	*** Mexico		* New Zealand
*** Philippines	** Liberia	*** Nicaragua		*** Norway
*** Republic of Korea	** Madagascar	*** Panama		*** Portugal
Samoa	*** Malawi	*** Paraguay		San Marino
*** Singapore	*** Mali	*** Peru		** Spain
* Solomon Islands	*** Mauritania	* Saint Kitts and Nevis		*** Sweden
*** Sri Lanka	*** Mauritius	** Saint Lucia		Switzerland
** Thailand	*** Mozambique	* Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		*** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Tonga	*** Niger	* Suriname		*** United States of America
** Tuvalu	*** Nigeria	*** Trinidad and Tobago		
** Vanuatu	*** Namibia	*** Uruguay		
*** Viet Nam	*** Rwanda	*** Venezuela		
	* Sao Tome and Principe			
	*** Senegal			
	* Seychelles			
	** Sierra Leone			
	Somalia			
	South Africa			
	*** Swaziland			
	** Togo			
	*** Uganda			
	*** United Republic of Tanzania			
	Zaire			
	** Zambia			
	*** Zimbabwe			

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES *8 **0 ***0	
* Albania	Kyrgyzstan
Armenia	Latvia
Azerbaijan	Lithuania
* Belarus	Poland
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Moldova
* Bulgaria	* Romania
Croatia	* Russian Federation
* Czech Republic	* Slovak Republic
Estonia	Slovenia
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	Tajikistan
Georgia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
* Hungary	Turkmenistan
Kazakhstan	Ukraine
	Uzbekistan

* Preparation underway : 26 countries.
** Draft outline received : 27 countries.
*** National programmes of action finalized : 92 countries.
National programmes of action finalized, in draft form or under preparation : 145 countries.

/...

Annex III

STATUS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
AS OF 31 JANUARY 1994

STATE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION BY RATIFICATION, ACCESSION OR SUCCESSION (154)			STATES THAT HAVE SIGNED BUT NOT YET RATIFIED (16)	STATES THAT ARE NEITHER STATE PARTIES NOR HAVE SIGNED (20)
Albania	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Afghanistan	Andorra
Algeria	Finland	Paraguay	Eritrea	Botswana
Angola	France	Peru	Gabon	Brunei Darussalam
Antigua and Barbuda	Gambia	Philippines	Haiti	Georgia
Argentina	Germany	Poland	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iraq
Armenia	Ghana	Portugal	Japan	Kazakhstan
Australia	Greece	Republic of Korea	Liechtenstein	Kyrgyzstan
Austria	Grenada	Republic of Moldova	Luxembourg	Kiribati
Azerbaijan	Guatemala	Romania	Mozambique	Malaysia
Bahamas	Guinea	Russian Federation	Netherlands	Nauru
Bahrain	Guinea-Bissau	Rwanda	Qatar	Oman
Bangladesh	Guyana	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Samoa	Saudi Arabia
Barbados	Holy See	Saint Lucia	South Africa	Singapore
Belarus	Honduras	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Swaziland	Solomon Islands
Belgium	Hungary	San Marino	Switzerland	Somalia
Belize	Iceland	Sao Tome and Principe	Turkey	Tonga
Benin	India	Senegal		Tuvalu
Bhutan	Indonesia	Seychelles		United Arab Emirates
Bolivia	Ireland	Sierra Leone		United States of America
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Israel	Slovenia		Uzbekistan
Brazil	Italy	Slovak Republic		
Bulgaria	Jamaica	Spain		
Burkina Faso	Jordan	Sri Lanka		
Burundi	Kenya	Sudan		
Cambodia	Kuwait	Suriname		
Cameroon	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Sweden		
Canada	Latvia	Syrian Arab Republic		
Cape Verde	Lebanon	Tajikistan		
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Thailand		
Chad	Liberia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		
Chile	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Togo		
China	Lithuania	Trinidad and Tobago		
Colombia	Madagascar	Tunisia		
Comoros	Malawi	Turkmenistan		
Congo	Maldives	Uganda		
Costa Rica	Mali	Ukraine		
Côte d'Ivoire	Malta	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
Croatia	Marshall Islands	United Republic of Tanzania		
Cuba	Mauritania	Uruguay		
Cyprus	Mauritius	Vanuatu		
Czech Republic	Mexico	Venezuela		
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Micronesia	Viet Nam		
Denmark	Monaco	Yemen		
Djibouti	Mongolia	Zaire		
Dominica	Morocco	Zambia		
Dominican Republic	Myanmar	Zimbabwe		
Ecuador	Namibia			
Egypt	Nepal			
El Salvador	New Zealand			
Equatorial Guinea	Nicaragua			
Estonia	Niger			
Ethiopia	Nigeria			
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	Norway			
	Pakistan			
	Panama			